



Ad Lib

Joe Ward, editor

I like the banks of daffodils, all yellow and green in their promise, and the brave little crocuses poking up into the early chill, and the scattered rioting that is forsythia. The plush carpets of phlox are good, and I love to ride my bike near a swampy place and hear the frogs singing in sex-crazed chorus at the tops of their itty-bitty green lungs.

But the best thing about spring in Crescent Hill is the trees. Some of them look like big snowballs long before the leaves come on. Some are wearing improbable pinks. You ride along and pass through bands of aroma that cannot be reproduced by all the technology perfumeries can muster.

Or maybe the trees are the second best thing. Last issue, when I talked about the wreckage of the trees along Frankfort Avenue, I wasn't thinking it would still be there this issue. It's been like some giant game of high-stakes whack-a-mole, in which you either proceed along the avenue not knowing when something's going to pop up from behind a pile of brush into your path, or you edge in a gingerly fashion out from behind such a pile, hoping not to get whacked.

The city tries, but there is a lot of brush around. Fortunately, we live in a community where neighbors don't like to let neighbors live amidst debris, or with their lives in peril. No, maybe the very best of spring, or any season, is the spirit that puts guys like Tim Allen, your community council president, out on along Frankfort Avenue when he's got a minute or two, gathering shattered branches into piles, the better to see them disappear quickly.

May his tribe increase. It is attitudes like his that have embodied the message of spring since time

began – the message of renewal, the message of hope. So, sure, the economy is in a bit of a tailspin, but spring has come, despite a particularly destructive winter.

And the feeling is out there on the breeze. Everything is going to be okay.

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WE NEED HELP TO SET NEXT PD HOUSE MISSION

The Peterson-Dumesnil House Foundation will mark its 25th anniversary this year by asking you, the community, to say what you'd like to see happen with the venerable Crescent Hill edifice.

The foundation board was formed in 1984 to purchase and preserve the old house – which was 115 years old then – and to revive and restore it, make it beautiful again, and transform it into a place where people could meet and celebrate. Mission accomplished in that one. The house has become a Louisville landmark.

What next? The board is asking you. Please respond to the Peterson-Dumesnil House survey at <http://www.crescenthill.us/> or at <http://www.petersondumesnil.org/>. If you would prefer, we will send you a paper copy, along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope, to complete and mail back to us. Please call 895-2654 to request a paper copy of the survey.

As soon as possible, we'll let you know how your ideas helped us define what the House's next mission will be.